

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA
CHARLOTTE DIVISION
CIVIL ACTION NO. 3:13-CV-00214-MOC-DSC**

**CYNTHIA L. MITCHELL,)
Plaintiff,)
v.)
NOVANT HEALTH, INC., et al.,)
Defendants.)**

ORDER

THIS MATTER is before the Court on the “Defendants’ Motion to Dismiss and Motion to Strike” (document #6) and “Plaintiff’s Motion for Leave to Amend Complaint After Filing of Defendants’ Motion to Dismiss” (document #10). This matter was referred to the undersigned Magistrate Judge pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1).

Rule 15 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure governs amendments to pleadings. Rule 15(a)(1) grants a party the right to “amend its pleading once as a matter of course,” if done within twenty-one (21) days after serving the pleading, Fed. R. Civ. P. 15(a)(1)(A), or, “if the pleading is one to which a responsive pleading is required,” a party may amend once as a matter of course, provided that it does so within “21 days after service of a responsive pleading or 21 days after service of a motion under Rule 12(b), (e), or (f), whichever is earlier.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 15(a)(1)(B). The Rule further provides that “leave [to amend the pleadings] shall be freely given where justice so requires.” Fed.R.Civ.P. 15(a).

As Defendants concede in their “Response to Plaintiff’s Motion to Amend Complaint” (document #11), she may amend her pleading as a matter of course under Rule 15(a)(1)(B).

It is well settled that an amended pleading supersedes the original pleading, and that motions directed at superseded pleadings are to be denied as moot. Young v. City of Mount Ranier, 238 F. 3d 567, 573 (4th Cir. 2001) (amended pleading renders original pleading of no effect); Turner v. Kight, 192 F. Supp. 2d 391, 397 (D. Md. 2002) (denying as moot motion to dismiss original complaint on grounds that amended complaint superseded original complaint).

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. "Plaintiff's Motion for Leave to Amend Complaint After Filing of Defendants' Motion to Dismiss" (document #10) is **GRANTED**. Plaintiff shall file her Amended Complaint within five (5) days of this Order.
2. "Defendants' Motion to Dismiss and Motion to Strike" (document #6) is administratively **DENIED** as moot without prejudice.
3. The Clerk is directed to send copies of this Order to counsel for the parties, including but not limited to moving counsel; and to the Honorable Max O. Cogburn, Jr.

SO ORDERED.

Signed: May 31, 2013



David S. Cayer
United States Magistrate Judge
